

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

of

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for

SECTIONAL BATH SPONGE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

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SECTIONAL BATH SPONGE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[001] Not applicable.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. The Field of the Invention

[002] The present invention relates to bath sponges and methods for manufacturing bath sponges made from a flexible mesh material.

2. The Relevant Technology

[003] Mesh bath sponges, also referred to as puffs, have become increasingly popular. Such sponges are generally used to facilitate soap application and skin exfoliation while bathing or showering. Conventional mesh sponges are typically made from a polymeric mesh netting material. The material is manipulated into a gathering of irregular ruffles that produce a generally spherical configuration. Mesh sponges have been well received in part due to the advantages they provide over conventional sponges or washcloths. For example, they increase and facilitate soap lathering and dry quickly to prevent bacterial growth. Although prior art mesh sponges are generally effective for their intended purposes, they have a number of shortcomings.

[004] For example, due to the irregular ruffles, conventional sponges are often deformed, thereby hampering their market appeal. Likewise, the ruffles can produce a more abrasive feel than some desire. Furthermore, many prior art sponges have a

relatively short life due to their fragile makeup and tendency to unravel. In addition, many conventional mesh sponges are secured together at their center, thereby forming a hard, dense core, which can hinder rinsing and drying.

[005] The present invention seeks to overcome and/or ameliorate these disadvantages while providing an aesthetically and tactilely pleasing bath sponge.